

MAR 22 2004

Docket No.: 25974-1

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted via facsimile to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Group Art Unit 1761; Commissioner for Patents; P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 at facsimile number 703-872-9306 on March 22, 2004.

Brandy Rogers

PATENT

OFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Harith A. Razaa :
Serial No.: 10/040,327 : Group Art Unit: 1761
Filed: November 7, 2001 : Examiner: Arthur L. Corbin
For: Vacuum Tumbled Food Products and Methods

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

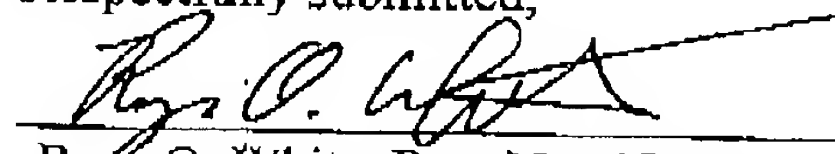
In the Official Action dated February 25, 2004, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 between claims 1-24 drawn to processes for preparing a food product and claims 25-31 drawn to food products.

Applicant hereby elects claims 1-24 drawn to processes for preparing a food product. This election is made with traverse on the basis that, as claims 25-31 are drawn to food products classified in class 426, it would not be unduly burdensome for the Examiner to examine claims 25-31 with claims 1-24 drawn to processes which are also classified in class 426. Accordingly, reconsideration of the restriction requirement and examination of claims 1-24 is respectfully requested.

It is believed that the above represents a complete response to the restriction requirement.

Accordingly, examination on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Ryan O. White, Reg. No. 45,541

Attorney for Applicant

DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP

1900 Chemed Center

255 East Fifth Street

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

(513) 977-8686

996386